

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5**

**DATE:** June 15, 2007

**SUBJECT:** Reports of Significant Developments and Activities  
Ending on June 8, 2007

**FROM:** Richard C. Karl, Director  
Superfund Division

**TO:** Mary A. Gade  
Regional Administrator

Bharat Mathur  
Deputy Regional Administrator

The activities listed below are organized by site-specific activities, other significant developments, and training/conferences:

**SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES**

**Response, Troy Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) Plume Site, Troy, Ohio**

On May 31, 2007, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) removal action at the Troy Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) Plume Site in Troy, Ohio, was initiated. The removal action will include installation of 17 vapor abatement systems to remove elevated levels of Perchloroethylene (PCE) and Tetrachloroethylene (TCE) from indoor air. The vapor abatement systems will be installed in 16 residences and one elementary school documented with elevated levels of PCE and TCE above Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry indoor air screening levels.

Contact: Steve Renninger (513-569-7539)

**Response, Schulte Metals Site, Cincinnati, Ohio**

On June 1, 2007, the U.S. EPA removal action at the Schulte Metals Site, Cincinnati, Ohio, was initiated. The removal action will include removal and off-site disposal of abandoned plating waste including acids, cyanides, and flammables. The Ohio EPA requested assistance from U.S. EPA at the site in April 2007

following trespassing and vandalism at the abandoned site. A site emergency contingency plan has been completed and distributed to local responders.

Contact: Steve Renninger (513-569-7539)

**Availability Session, South Minneapolis Neighborhood Soil Contamination Site, Minneapolis, Minnesota**

On June 5, 2007, the U.S. EPA hosted an availability session for the South Minneapolis Neighborhood Soil Contamination site, also called the South Minneapolis Arsenic Contamination site and formerly known as CMC Heartland. About 15 local residents attended, as well as representatives from the Minnesota Department of Health, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, and the City of Minneapolis. Also present were Cheryl Allen and Robert Paulson from U. S. EPA's Public Affairs Office. The purpose of the session was to update the community on the status of the ongoing removal action at the site. Approximately 100 residential properties have already been remediated, and there are an additional 103 properties with levels of arsenic over U.S. EPA's removal action level of 95 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg). U.S. EPA discussed with the attendees how the clean up will be scheduled and what it involves.

Contact: Sonia Vega (651-296-7361)

**OTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS**

**Enhanced Response Readiness, City of Chicago**

During the week of May 31, 2007, after coordination between the City of Chicago's Department of Water, the United States Coast Guard (USCG), and the Superfund Division's Emergency Response Branch, the ability of local, State, and Federal response capabilities was greatly enhanced by pre-positioning of boom at both the Jardine and South Water Treatment Plants. On May 31, the USCG staged 1200 feet of boom at the Jardine Plant and 1000 feet of boom to the South Plant, along with the respective anchoring and light systems. The booms are capable of protecting the treatment plants intakes so that potable water could continue to be supplied to the public. These treatment plants provide drinking water to more than forty percent of the population of the State of Illinois. While the USCG will maintain ownership

and maintain the boom, it is considered to be a response asset available for use at any time by responding Agencies.

Contact: Bill Bolen (312-353-6316)

### **TRAINING/CONFERENCES**

#### **Meeting, Lucas County EMA/LEPC Infrastructure Protection and Vulnerability Assessment Group, Toledo, Ohio**

On May 30, 2007, On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Jon Gulch represented the U.S. EPA-Emergency Response Branch at a Lucas County Emergency Management Agency (EMA)/Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) meeting to discuss infrastructure protection and conducting vulnerability assessments at facilities in Lucas County, Ohio. Based on prior experience in this field, OSC Jon Gulch provided technical knowledge and guidance on the Sandia National Laboratory-Water and Wastewater Vulnerability Assessment process. The vulnerability assessments will be conducted at targeted facilities throughout the County and information will be shared with local police and fire departments that would respond to terrorist and/or accidental chemical releases at these facilities. Other organizations that participated in the meeting included: Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA), Lucas County LEPC, Lucas County EMA, Lucas County Sheriff Office, and the Cities of Toledo and Oregon Police and Fire Departments.

Contact: Jon Gulch (734-692-7686)

#### **Presentation, Evanston Township High School, Evanston, Illinois**

On May 29, 2007, On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Jaime Brown spoke to students in four classes at Evanston Township High School in Evanston, Illinois. The topics covered were: 1) the importance of finishing school and going to college and 2) U.S. EPA and the role the Emergency Response Branch plays in cleaning up the environment. Mr. Brown's presentation emphasized what education is needed to work for U.S. EPA, particularly in the sciences. Mr. Brown was asked to return next school year to speak to more students about the same subject.

Contact: Jaime Brown (312-886-2256)

**School Conservation Day Talk, Hanson Park Elementary School,  
Chicago, Illinois**

On May 16, 2007, On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Jaime Brown spoke to students in four classes at Hanson Park Elementary School in Chicago, Illinois. The topics covered were: 1) the importance of preserving the environment and 2) U.S. EPA and the role the Emergency Response Branch plays in cleaning up the environment. Mr. Brown's presentation emphasized what education is needed to work for U.S. EPA, particularly in the sciences.

Contact: Jaime Brown (312-886-2256)

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